What is claimed is

1. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising

(i) an aldosterone synthase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof alone or in combination with,

(ii) an AT_1-receptor antagonist or an AT_1 receptor antagonist combined with a diuretic or, in each case, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and

(iii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

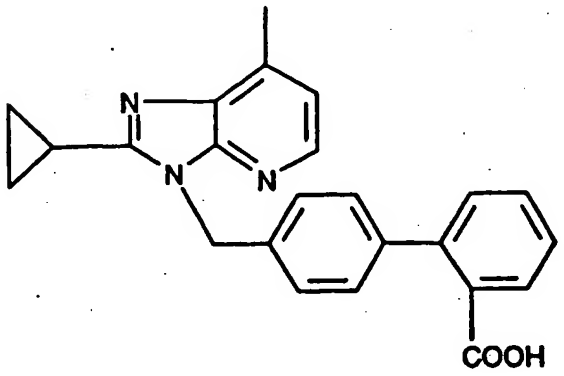
for the prevention of, delay of progression of, treatment of a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of

(a) hypertension, congestive heart failure, renal failure, especially chronic renal failure, restenosis after percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, and restenosis after coronary artery bypass surgery;

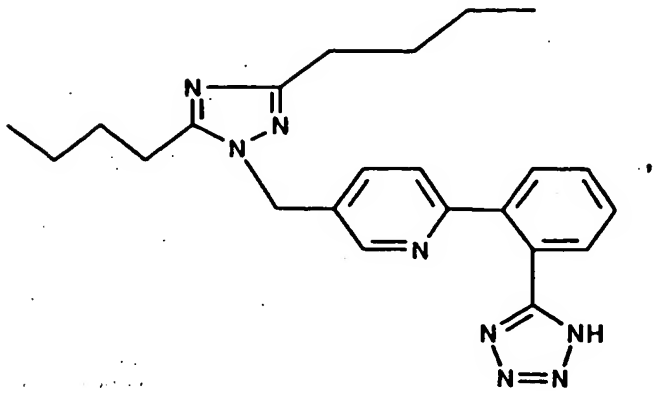
(b) atherosclerosis, insulin resistance and syndrome X, diabetes mellitus type 2, obesity, nephropathy, renal failure, e.g. chronic renal failure, hypothyroidism, survival post myocardial infarction (MI), coronary heart diseases, hypertension in the elderly, familial dyslipidemic hypertension, increase of formation of collagen, fibrosis, and remodeling following hypertension (antiproliferative effect of the combination), all these diseases or conditions associated with or without hypertension; and

(c) endothelial dysfunction with or without hypertension.

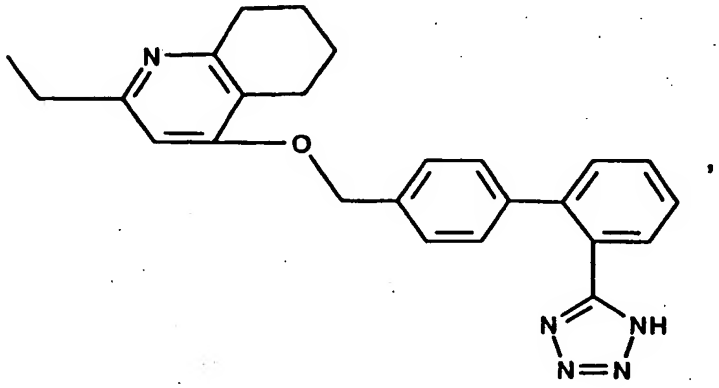
2. Use according to claim 1 wherein said AT_1-receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of valsartan, losartan, candesartan, eprosartan, irbesartan, saprisartan, tasosartan, telmisartan, the compound with the designation E-1477 of the following formula



the compound with the designation SC-52458 of the following formula



and the compound with the designation the compound ZD-8731 of the following formula

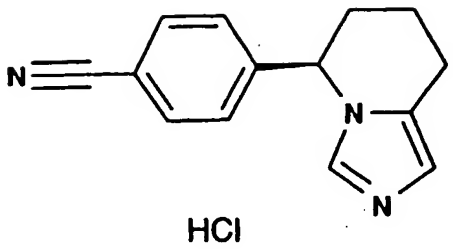


or, in each case, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. Use according to claim 2 wherein said AT_1-receptor antagonist is valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. Use according to any one of claims claims 1 to 3 wherein said aldosterone synthase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of anastrozole, fadrozole (including the (+)-enantiomer thereof, and exemestane, or, in each case where applicable, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said aldosterone synthase inhibitor is (+)-enantiomer of the hydrochloride of fadrozole of formula



6. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the diuretic is hydrochlorothiazide.

7. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising
an aldosterone synthase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
for the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention of, delay of progression of, treatment of a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of
(α) hypertension, congestive heart failure, renal failure, especially chronic renal failure, restenosis after percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, and restenosis after coronary artery bypass surgery;
(β) atherosclerosis, insulin resistance and syndrome X, diabetes mellitus type 2, obesity, nephropathy, renal failure, e.g. chronic renal failure, hypothyroidism, survival post myocardial infarction (MI), coronary heart diseases, hypertension in the elderly, familial dyslipidemic hypertension, increase of formation of collagen, fibrosis, and remodeling following hypertension (antiproliferative effect of the combination), all these diseases or conditions associated with or without hypertension; and
(χ) endothelial dysfunction with or without hypertension.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
(i) an aldosterone synthase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof either alone or in combination with,
(ii) an AT_1-receptor antagonist or an AT_1 receptor antagonist combined with a diuretic or, in each case, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and
(iii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;
for the prevention of, delay of progression of, treatment of a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of

(a) hypertension, congestive heart failure, renal failure, especially chronic renal failure, restenosis after percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, and restenosis after coronary artery bypass surgery;
(b) atherosclerosis, insulin resistance and syndrome X, diabetes mellitus type 2, obesity, nephropathy, renal failure, e.g. chronic renal failure, hypothyroidism, survival post myocardial infarction (MI), coronary heart diseases, hypertension in the elderly, familial dyslipidemic hypertension, increase of formation of collagen, fibrosis and remodeling following hypertension (antiproliferative effect of the combination), all these diseases or conditions associated with or without hypertension; and
(c) endothelial dysfunction with or without hypertension.

9. A method for the prevention of, delay of progression of, treatment of a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of
(a) hypertension, congestive heart failure, renal failure, especially chronic renal failure, restenosis after percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, and restenosis after coronary artery bypass surgery;
(b) atherosclerosis, insulin resistance and syndrome X, diabetes mellitus type 2, obesity, nephropathy, renal failure, e.g. chronic renal failure, hypothyroidism, survival post myocardial infarction (MI), coronary heart diseases, hypertension in the elderly, familial dyslipidemic hypertension, increase of formation of collagen, fibrosis, and remodeling following hypertension (antiproliferative effect of the combination), all these diseases or conditions associated with or without hypertension; and
(c) endothelial dysfunction with or without hypertension;
comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal, including man, a therapeutically effective amount of an aldosterone synthase inhibitor in free or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.

10. Method according to claim 9 further comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an AT_1-receptor antagonist or an AT_1 receptor antagonist combined with a diuretic, in each case, in free or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.